

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 23 of 1885]

REPORT

OF

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 6th June 1885.

CONTENTS:

	Page.		Page.
England and Russia	735	Wild beasts	
Ayob Khan	ib.	The cruelties in the Presidency Jail	745
Indian troops should not go out of India	ib.	Native <i>versus</i> a European at Bagirhat	ib.
Russia and India	ib.	Mr. Hext's case	ib.
The support of the Mussulmans in the event of a war	ib.	Mr. Sharp in Maldah	ib.
with Russia	ib.	Famine in Beerbhoom	ib.
Russia and England	ib.	Famine in Kushtea	746
The Russian advance	736	Mr. Enge...	ib.
Prospects of peace	ib.	European offenders	ib.
Borrowing for India in England...	ib.	The resolution on the subject of giving addresses	ib.
Russia and the Amir...	ib.	The distribution of a statement of the grievances of	ib.
Will Russians come to India?	ib.	India in England	747
Defences of India	ib.	The serving of summonses by post	ib.
Russia and England's treatment of subject races	ib.	The wringing out money from Indians and the Queen's	ib.
What Government should now do	737	promise to govern India for the benefit of Indians	ib.
English spies in Central Asia	ib.	Native editors and official information	ib.
Indian Generals	ib.	Thefts in Santipore	ib.
The Gilgit pass	ib.	Complaints of Bolepur	748
England and Russia	ib.	Famine in Rampurhat	ib.
Anglo-Indians and Russia and England	738	Zemindari and trade of Government officers	ib.
The loyalty of Indians	ib.	Distress in the province	ib.
Scarcity of food and water	739	Additional Judges in the mofussil courts	ib.
The volunteering movement	ib.	Lord Dufferin	749
The frontier defences	ib.	Complaints of Inatpore	ib.
Military training in schools	740	Arrangements for irrigation	ib.
A road in Bajitpore	ib.	The Calcutta Small Cause Court	ib.
Famine in Burdwan	ib.	The reduction of expenditure	ib.
Water-rates in Burdwan	ib.	Reduction of public expenditure	ib.
The Indian debt	ib.	The famine	750
The Cutwa Police	741	Mr. Justice Norris	ib.
Lord Dufferin and the loyalty of Indians	ib.	The volunteering movement	ib.
Enrolment of Negroes as Volunteers	ib.	Reduction of expenditure	ib.
The siling up of the river Lau...	ib.	Famine in Bengal	751
The natives and the English	ib.	The Calcutta Small Cause Court	ib.
Technical school at Moorshedabad	ib.	Admission of natives into the army	ib.
The composition of the Judicial Service	742	Indians and the expenses of the Anglican Church	ib.
The famine	ib.	Sir Rivers Thompson and reduction of expenditure	ib.
Famine in Bengal	ib.	Agitation for military privileges...	ib.
The quack doctors in villages	ib.	The English Government and Indians	752
The ferry between Shyamnagar and Telinipara	743	Famine in Assam	ib.
Famine in Bengal	ib.	Bengali School-books	ib.
Prospects of crops	ib.	The famine in Bengal	ib.
The Indian debt	ib.	Famine in Beerbhoom	ib.
Scarcity of water in Kanakpur and Pratappur	ib.	Famine in Bengal	753
Distribution of rice at Azimganj	744	The Municipal License tax	ib.
Complaints of Kishnagore	ib.	The Balasore Road Cess office	ib.
The volunteering movement	ib.	The Balasore Road Cess office	ib.
Improvement of agriculture	ib.	Recent vernacular examinations in Orissa	ib.
Natives as volunteers	ib.	The Bengal Agricultural Department	ib.
Indian heroines	ib.	The volunteering movement	ib.
Government and the distress	ib.	Water-supply for Pooree	754
The suburbs included into the Calcutta Municipality	745	Dr. K. M. Banerjee	ib.
Obscene songs	ib.		755

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ...	.....
2	"Assam News"	Ditto ...	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	700	
4	"Purva Darpan"	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Calcutta ...	700	1st June 1885.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	102	29th May 1885.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	12,000	30th ditto.
8	"Bháratbási"	Ditto ...	.....
9	"Bhárat Mihir"	Ditto ...	625	28th ditto.
10	"Burdwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	296	26th ditto.
11	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepere, Mymensingh	529	25th ditto.
12	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca ...	425	31st ditto.
13	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	800	29th ditto.
14	"Grámvartá Prakáshiká"	Comercolly ...	500	30th ditto.
15	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	
16	"Mussulman Bandhu"	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	.....
17	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore ...	437	27th ditto.
18	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....
19	"Navavibhákár"	Calcutta ...	850	1st June 1885.
20	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	440	
21	"Patáká"	Calcutta ...	.....	29th May 1885.
22	"Prájá Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	900	29th ditto.
23	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	600	29th ditto.
24	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiniá, Rungpore ...	220	28th ditto.
25	"Sádháraní"	Calcutta ...	500	31st May 1885.
26	"Sahachar"	Ditto ...	500	27th ditto.
27	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	1,500	1st June 1885.
28	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	30th May 1885.
29	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	345	
30	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	1,000	1st June 1885.
31	"Sulabha Samáchar"	Calcutta ...	3,000	23rd and 30th May 1885.
32	"Surabhi"	Ditto ...	700	2nd June 1885.
<i>Daily.</i>				
33	"Dainik"	Calcutta ...	.....	1st and 3rd to 5th June 1885.
34	"Samvád Prabháhar"	Ditto ...	225	29th, and 30th May and 1st to 6th June 1885.
35	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	1st to 5th June 1885.
36	"Samachár Chandriká"	Ditto ...	625	29th and 30th May and 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th June 1885.
37	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto ...	520	1st, 2nd and 4th June 1885.
38	"Prabháti"	Ditto ...	1,000	1st to 5th June 1885.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
39	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna ...	400	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
40	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
41	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....
42	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	28th May 1885.
43	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	500	25th ditto.
44	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	300	23rd ditto.
45	"Hindi Samáchar"	Bhagulpore ...	700	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Jám-Jahán-num"	Calcutta ...	250	22nd and 29th May 1885.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	100	
48	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar ...	250	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
49	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	20th, 23rd and 27th May 1885.
<i>Daily.</i>				
50	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	23rd and 26th to 29th May, and 1st, 2nd and 3rd June 1885.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
51	"Taraka"	Calcutta ...	.....
52	"Shiksábandhu"	Ditto ...	.....
53	"Pradip"	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	200	16th May 1885.
55	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	116	19th ditto.
56	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto ...	205	14th ditto.
57	"Sebaka"	Cuttack ...	200	20th ditto.

POLITICAL.

THE *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 25th May, says that, from the movements of Russia, it does not appear that she will conquer Afghanistan after occupying Herat for the purpose of invading India. It rather appears that she will occupy Persia, which will give her the command of the Persian Gulf, and that she will collect war-ships there and from thence invade India. Under these circumstances, instead of entering into a friendship with Afghanistan, the English should form an alliance with Persia.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 25th, 1885.

2. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 26th May, says that the English papers are in the habit of giving out that the Shah of Persia has kept Ayooob Khan in custody in the interest of the English. Some English papers were advising the Government to bring Ayooob to India; but, says the *Amrita Bazar*, that the Shah has kept him in custody in the interests of the Russians, and that he has been made over to them. He will now be in a better position to create disturbances in Afghanistan with the help of the Russians. If the Amir goes against Russia, she will be able easily to injure him. The Russians are outwitting the English at every step.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May, 26th 1885.

3. The *Sahachar*, of the 27th May, referring to the opinion of Mr. Archibald Forbes, that in the event of a war with Russia it would be most unwise to send Indian troops to the Indus, but that they should remain in the country and that Russians should be left to march to the Indus through Afghanistan, says that it expressed the same opinion eight years ago. If this is done, the English Government need not fear any number of Russian troops and any amount of hostility on the part of the Afghans and the Turkomans.

SAHACHAR,
May 27th, 1885.

4. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 28th May, implores Government to trust the natives and to increase the number of soldiers by training them in the art of war. If Russia can recruit 2,000,000 men from among her subjects, England will be able to recruit 4,000,000 from among the natives. If the subjects are loyal there need be no fear of enemies.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
May 28th, 1885.

5. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 28th May, says that, from the hostility of the Mussulmans towards Russia, who is an enemy of the Sultan of Turkey, the head of the Mussulman world, and the Nizam's desire to send a representative to the Rawul Pindie Durbar, it appears certain that the Mussulmans will support the English Government in the event of a war with Russia.

URDU GUIDE,
May 28th, 1885.

6. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 29th May, says that a Russian exile has written a book setting forth the shortcomings of the Russian Government. The *Englishman* newspaper asks those who would have the English rule in India supplanted by Russian rule to read this book. The writer says that no native of India ever wants to have the change. The English rule has many advantages which need not be enumerated. But God forbid, if there be a change of Government, will the Russian Government be regarded as very severe by the natives? The English Government is very good in theory, but it is not so in practice. The laws are liberal, but they are not administered in a liberal spirit. At the first glance the English appear to govern the people by law. But in the mofussil the English officers conduct the work of the administration so harshly and have subjected the people to so great a severity that no Government will appear severer to them.

PRAJA BANDHU;
May 29th, 1885.

PRAJABANDHU,
May 29th, 1885.

7. The same paper says that Russia has up to this time shown no indication of her intention to invade India. The Russian advance.

Whatever her intention might be, she has always shown a readiness to come to an amicable settlement. But the attitude of Russia has filled England with alarm. England was acting very foolishly by attempting to check the Russian advance. But by the grace of God she has found out her mistake.

BANGABASI,
May 30th, 1885.

8. The *Bangabási*, of the 30th May, says that the settlement of the boundary as arrived at between Lord Granville and M. Staal, the Russian Ambassador, has evoked a great difference of opinion both in England and Russia. Prospect of peace.

The rumours of peace are not well-founded. The writer thinks that as long as England will not be in a position to make war, she will try to delude the people with hopes of peace.

BANGABASI.

9. The same paper says that a Bill has been introduced in Parliament with a view to borrow money for India in England. The writer is surprised to hear

that the Viceroy did not know anything about the reason why the money was to be borrowed. Do they conceal things even from the Viceroy?

BANGABASI.

10. The same paper does not know what the Amir's thoughts are, but his attitude has made it suspicious.

Russia and the Amir.

Russia is gradually advancing towards Afghanistan. The Amir does not say anything himself nor allows the English to say anything. On the contrary, he obstructs the English by objecting to their marching an army through his territories. Do these acts shew friendship for the English? or are they the out come of a crooked policy? The writer is afraid that the English may be checkmated by the wily moves of the Amir.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
May 30th, 1885.

11. The *Grāmavartā Prakāshikā*, of the 30th May, says that, what Russia really aims at is an approach to the sea. She wants Constantinople. She

wants to keep England busy with Afghanistan and to occupy Constantinople. The possession of that city will give her a share in the commerce of the world. After she has obtained it she may, if she thinks proper, invade India.

SADHARANI,
May 31st, 1885.

12. The *Sādhārani*, of the 31st May, says that, though the English are very intelligent, they have not acted wisely at this time of difficulties in Central Asia.

Defences of India.

They should not have given arms and ammunition to the Amir for gaining his friendship. Their expectation of obtaining his permission to station troops at the farther end of the Khyber Pass has not been fulfilled. Could they have done so they need not have feared any enemy, however numerous. But the English should erect a fort at the extremity of the Khyber Pass, either by diplomatic skill or by force. Had the Amir been friendly to the English, he would have permitted them to enter Afghanistan. When he is hesitating to do so he cannot be fully trusted. The English should keep war-ships at different places in the Indian Ocean.

SADHARANI.

13. The same paper says that Russia has the reputation for appointing able men belonging to subject races to the highest offices. On this subject natives often

Russia and England's treatment of subject races.

taunt the English Government by speaking of the generous conduct of Russia, which is called barbarous by the British Government. The appointment of Alikhanoff as a high officer in the Russian army has made the English unable to give any reply to this taunt. The *Pioneer* is now replying to the taunt by pointing to the appointment of Syed Mahmud as a Judge of the Allahabad High Court. The Editor says that the English are proclaiming with flourishes of trumpet the appointment of a native as a Judge of

the High Court after a hundred years' rule. But Russia, immediately after a fresh conquest, has appointed Alikhanoff as a Provincial Governor and a high military officer. Though Indians have lived long under the British Government, and though they have bled for it, no Indian has attained to the position of Alikhanoff. Russia does not treat the people it conquers as a subject race. Under the Russian Government there are not different laws for Russians and subject races. For this reason there is no such thing as an Ilbert Bill agitation under the Russian Government. What has the *Pioneer* to say in reply to all this?

14. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 1st June, says that Government should at this time of danger treat all the feudatory and tributary princes of India in

What Government should now do.

a friendly spirit, and should not interfere with any of their rights at the advice of selfish English officers and English editors. Government should not now impose any new tax upon the zemindars and rich merchants. It should make good laws and administer justice in an impartial spirit to save the native public from the oppressions of the tea-planters and others. Government should also give a military training to all natives desirous of becoming Volunteers after taking a regular written agreement from them. Government should issue orders for the keeping of war-ships manned by natives near every commercial city on the sea-coast. It should also try to increase the number of, and give a military training in the English manner to, the troops of the native princes. Instead of giving large sums of money to the Amir and the Afghans who have been always hostile to it, the English Government should spend the money in the country. It should enter into a friendship with the Shah of Persia who is rather trustworthy and powerful.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 1st, 1885.

15. The *Navavibhákar*, of the 1st June, referring to the *Englishman's* ridicule of M. Lessar's insinuation that the unknown person in the disguise of a Sheapos and his Afghan and Hindu adherents, who incited the Turkomans to rise against Russia, were in the pay of the English, says that Russia has good reason to suspect such things. Does not the *Englishman* remember the detection of an English military spy at the time of Lord Lytton? The world will not believe that Russians alone are dishonest liars and that the English are saints.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
June 1st, 1885.

16. The same paper says that it is a pity that no Indian General can be found at this time of danger who may be employed to defend India from Russian invasion. This is disgraceful for the British Government. How long will it bear this disgrace? If war breaks out, will not brave princes like Sindhia be appointed Generals? Nepal will be able to furnish the British Government with troops as well as Generals. The Nizam too has one or two good Generals. Though the English Government has deprived India of heroes, she is not yet devoid of heroism. The writer recommends that the claims of Indian Generals should be recognized.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

17. The same paper says that the English have always cast glances upon the Gilgit Pass to the north of Kashmir. Some time ago the Commander-in-Chief went to Kashmir. Now Colonel Lockhart is going to that part of India with adherents. The object of these tours is evident. There can be no doubt that the English will station troops in the norther frontier of Kashmir. There is also no doubt that this may lead to a quarrel with the Maharajah of Kashmir. There is no knowing how many ill-advised things the English will do owing to the fear of Russia.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

The Gilgit pass.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 1st, 1865.

18. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 1st June, remarks that there is still some doubt as to a peaceful termination of the dispute between England and

England and Russia.

Russia. The different lines of policy towards Russia which England has hitherto followed instead of frightening that power have only had the effect of pleasing it. Russia had expected that if British troops advanced into Afghanistan to oppose her progress, the act would prove a distinct advantage to her in proportion as it would weaken England. But Mr. Gladstone has since adopted a new line of policy which may have inspired Russia with fear. She may therefore seek to prevent a peace being established, and demand that England should not make any arrangements for the defence of Herat or Afghanistan, because in that case she (England) would be indirectly assuming a hostile attitude towards Russia. The Afghans at the slightest encouragement from England would quarrel with Russia as they did at Panjdeh, and if Russia chastised them in consequence, and England came to their aid, there would be open and direct hostility between England and Russia. Russia might again say that she would have no objection if England helped the Amir, but if she did so, she should undertake to make all necessary reparation to Russia for any injury that might be caused to her by the Afghans. She might also say that England has up to this time injured her in many instances. England injured Russia in the Crimea, she injured her in Central Asia, in her contentions with the Shah of Persia, in the Caucasus, as also in the war with Turkey by secretly assisting her enemies. Who therefore could say that England would not act similarly in Afghanistan also? And how could peace be established under such circumstances? But if there had been really no hope of peace between England and Russia, the preparations for war on the part of England would have been resumed, at least it would have been given out that war was imminent. But a peace with Russia, even if the Amir should be friendly and arrangements be made for defending Herat, can never be lasting. It would be a wise policy to give up all hopes of such a short-lived peace. Russia may disturb the peace at a time when the British Government will probably find it impossible to check her advance. She may win over the Amir, at least create a rebellion in Afghanistan, attempt to set up Yakub Khan on the Afghan throne or create a diversion in Egypt by joining France. The editor is confident that if the British Government only guards the frontiers of India, and reposes its trust in the natives of the country, Russia may enter Afghanistan, but cannot advance further. If the people of India are convinced that English rule is better than Russian rule, they will have no motive or inducement to attempt the subversion of the former, the more so, as they are perfectly aware that by doing so they will not be creating a chance of regaining their freedom, but facilities of a Russian conquest of India.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,

19. The same paper says that an English lady has written a letter to the *Pioneer* on the subject of native soldiers. She desires that natives should be admitted into the army, inasmuch as by this means a cheap and numerous army might be created in India, but she thinks that, before this is done, good feelings should be created between natives and Anglo-Indians, and that English women in India might do much to bring about this good result. But the writer of the letter in the *Pioneer* has made two mistakes: one is that English ladies can exert any very considerable influence upon Hindu society. The manners and customs, tastes, inclinations and religious beliefs of Hindu ladies on the one hand, and of English ladies on the other, are so different, that it is almost impossible for the latter to influence the former in any way. The second mistake of the writer is that Englishmen can attach natives to themselves only by sweet words. It is only a few

natives with whom Englishmen come in contact. The masses are perfect strangers to them, and as such do not set much store by their kind treatment or sweet words. The dispute between natives and Englishmen in India is owing to their conflicting interests, and until the latter govern the country in a disinterested and impartial spirit, there will be no good feelings between the two races. English ladies may not have much influence over Hindu society, but if they can use their undoubtedly great influence in the European community to make English officials in India govern the country on Christian principles, the object aimed at by the lady writer in the *Pioneer* may be attained, and the fears of Lord Randolph Churchill as to the future of British rule in India may be removed. In spite of its many faults the Mussulman rule lasted for eight hundred years in India, because the Mussulman rulers considered India as their own country. The British Government is more powerful than the former Mahomedan administration, while it is free from the defects that disfigured that administration. If only the British officials rule the country in an impartial spirit, all difficulties will be removed.

20. The same paper remarks that just as parents are found to show greater affection for their disobedient sons than for their dutiful and affectionate off-

The loyalty of Indians.

spring, so the British Government is more lenient to the turbulent Irish than to the loyal people of India. Government is hesitating to introduce the Crimes Act into Ireland, but the Criminal Procedure Code was introduced into India without the least scruple. The effects of loyalty and devotion are really wonderful. The more the people of India are injured and oppressed by the British Government, the stronger becomes their loyalty to it. The Mussulmans have been the greatest sufferers under British rule, but they have during the present crisis shown the most intense loyalty. Government has done great injustice to the Nawab Nazim of Moorshedabad. It was from a former head of the family that the English obtained their Indian Empire, and yet they deprived the late Nawab Nazim of his position, titles and wealth, and have recently taken away the title of Nawab Nazim from the eldest member of the family and given him that of a "Nawab Bahadur" instead. And yet the Nawab Bahadur has offered to place all his resources at the disposal of the British Government at this crisis. The native princes of India, who have been in different ways oppressed by the British Government, have made it offers of men and money. The zemindars, and particularly the Maharajah of Durbhungah, who have been injured by the Tenancy Act, have made equally liberal offers. The injured educated natives also are showing their loyalty. Some say that the injured are showing all this loyalty to Government to make it ashamed of its conduct towards them.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 1st, 1885.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

21. Baboo Jogendra Lal Khastgir, writing from Nalhati, Beerbhoom, to the *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 23rd May, says that, as there is scarcity of food

Scarcity of food and water.

and clothing, there is as much scarcity of water attended with mortality. Tanks have almost all been dried up. The writer asks the Government, who is responsible for all this?

SULABH SAMACHAR,
May 23rd, 1885.

22. The *Charu Vártá*, of the 25th May, says that it is impolitic to discourage the aspirations of the Indian nation. To do so would be a grave political

The volunteering movement.

blunder. If the Government is prudent, it will not set its face against such aspirations. If Government admits natives into the Volunteer Corps they will be greatly attached to it.

CHARU VARTA,
May 25th, 1885.

CHARU VARTA,
May 25th, 1885.

23. The same paper does not disapprove of Lord Kimberley's idea of the construction of certain railway lines and military roads in the western frontier of India. But frontier affairs alone should not engross the whole attention of Government. The country is in great distress. Many are suffering from various calamities. The first duty of Government is to encourage the aspirations of the people. If it busies itself with the frontier only it will lose everything. If Government trains the natives in the art of war it will have nothing to fear. The writer advises Government not to think only of the frontier and thereby to bring about the ruin of the country.

CHARU VARTA.

24. The same paper is glad to notice that the managers of the City College and the Ripon College have made arrangements to teach their students the rudiments of military science. The writer would be glad to see the example of these Colleges followed by other institutions under native management.

CHARU VARTA.

25. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that people living within the jurisdiction of the Munsiff of Bajitpore applied to the Road Cess Committee for the extension to Bajitpore of the road from Dholelia to Kargan. There is no good road in this quarter. The writer does not understand why the Committee has rejected this application. He asks the Deputy Magistrate, Baboo Mohendra Nath Mazumdar, to inspect the road on the occasion of his tour.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 26th, 1885.

26. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 26th May, asks what has Government done to remove the scarcity of food and water from which people are suffering so greatly? The Viceroy is anxious for war. The Lieutenant-Governor reposes comfortably among the hills at Darjeeling. He has turned a deaf ear to the groans of the suffering people and has made his mind easy by placing the Collector in charge of the relief operations. But there is no time for remaining inactive. Government may have asked the Collector to look to the distress of the people, but it has not placed funds at his disposal sufficient for the relief of distress. The Collector is affording a scanty relief with money raised by subscription. But the matter has grown very serious. Subscriptions will no longer do. The chief duty of a ruler is to protect his subjects. But Government seems to be unaware of this duty. Has the vast Indian Empire an Emperor? The sufferings of the people show that it has none. The Queen Empress is at a great distance. Had she been in India the subjects would not have been in so much want. Who will weep for the subjects unless it be the Sovereign? The Government is open-handed when making payment to the Amir. It has easily spent crores of rupees for the Pindie Durbar. It is stingy only when it has to incur any expense for the starving people of India. It is with deep regret that people say that India has no Sovereign. The hard-hearted officers of the Empress are bringing disgrace upon her name.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

27. The same paper says that the owner of a house in Burdwan, who pays Rs. 4 annually in water-rates, will be allowed to use 30 gallons of water a day, and he will be obliged to pay for every gallon that he uses extra. The people of Burdwan are not in a position to pay so much. The writer says that he has systematically opposed the construction of water-works at Burdwan. The pipe is very good, there is no doubt about that, but the people of Burdwan are not in a position to pay the tax. If people have to pay a larger amount of tax for taking water-pipe to their houses they will never do so. The writer does not understand how the Committee could have come to the conclusion that 20 gallons of water will be required for a man. The writer

thinks that the Burdwan people with their tanks and the Banka will not require so much pipe water a day.

28. The same paper says that the public debt of India amounted to 60 crores in 1857. It amounted to Rs. 1,57,38,88,790 in 1881. The increase of

The Indian debt.

debt is injurious to the people of India alone.

29. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains that the Police officers of Cutwa never go their round at night; they depend upon municipal constables

The Cutwa Police.

who are never in their beats. The writer draws the attention of the Superintendent of the Burdwan Police to this matter.

30. *The Sahachar*, of the 27th May, says that the hope that Lord Dufferin and his Private Secretary will become popular like Lord Ripon and his Private Secretary is becoming stronger and stronger in its

Lord Dufferin and the loyalty of Indians.

mind. Lord Ripon understood that the Indian princes and all the different races of India were loyal. Lord Dufferin too perceives this, and the Private Secretary of the Nizam did well in alluding in his letter to the policy of Lord Ripon. Lord Dufferin has surely understood the hint. The Viceroy's Private Secretary has expressed His Excellency's sentiments in the reply written by him to the letter of the Nizam's Secretary. The Nizam's Secretary is deserving of thanks for expressing the loyalty of not Mussulmans alone, but also of all classes of Indians.

31. The same paper says that it is natural that Mr. Sterndale, who was driven out of the Suburban Municipality by

Enrolment of Negroes as volunteers.

natives, should not love them. Because there was such a friend of Anglo-Indians as Sir Rivers Thompson, Mr. Sterndale is earning his bread by serving as Collector of Calcutta. Mr. Sterndale has advocated the cause of the Negroes by saying that the Negroes now pray in the same churches with the English, and that they have become so much partial to the English that they will always remain English citizens. The writer has no objection to the enrolment of the Negroes as volunteers. But what will natives think if Negroes who are not inhabitants of India are enrolled as volunteers and they are not?

32. The same paper dwells upon the sufferings of the people of the villages in the Baraset sub-division situated on the

The silting up of the river Laui.

banks of the river Laui. Agitation has been made about this grievance for the last 25 years. Many Magistrates and Commissioners submitted reports about it. The late Rajah Degumber Mitter, who was a member of the Commission appointed for enquiring about epidemic fever, said that the raising of embankments in the bed of the river by fishermen was injuring the health and agriculture of the villages. Every year the extent of arable land is decreasing. Immediately upon assuming the administration of Bengal, Sir Rivers Thompson sent a supervisor to inspect the condition of the river. But nothing has come of this. No civilized Government in the world would have sat silent upon seeing such sufferings of the people so near the metropolis. The expenditure of two lakhs of rupees may save hundreds of villages.

33. *The Murshidabad Patrika*, of the 27th May, says that the Maharajah of Tipperah, has placed the

The Natives and the English.

entire resources of his State at the disposal of the English Government. Nawab Ashanulla of Dacca and the Nawab of Moorshedabad have agreed to help Government with seven lakhs and two lakhs of rupees respectively. Some bad people rose against the English Government in 1857, but the native princes helped it to the best of their ability. The princes and people of India are well-wishers of Government. Though the English have a thousand

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 26th, 1885.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

SAHACHAR,
May 27th, 1885.

SAHACHAR.

SAHACHAR.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
May 27th, 1885

proofs of the loyalty of the people, still they do not trust them. They do not allow natives to wear arms. They are foreigners. The Empress trusts her English subjects more than her native subjects, otherwise why do her representatives distrust the natives?

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
May 27th, 1885.

34. The same paper is glad to notice the establishment of a technical school at the City of Moorshedabad. The Nawab of Moorshedabad has given substantial aid to the school. His encouragement of good works is deserving of every praise.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA.

35. Referring to the scandalous case between the Sub-Judge and the cook of the Sudder Munsif of Berhampore, the same paper makes the following remarks:—

The composition of the Judicial Service.

Where is the hope of the moral education of the people if such scandalous occurrences happen amongst those who are highly educated, highly placed, and possessed of judicial rank? Such cases humble the pride of moral elevation which we claim to be achieving under British rule. Under the Mussalman rule such light-minded and reckless men could never have obtained high seats on the Bench. Such worthlessness in the highly-placed was never before shown. It constitutes a stigma on our nation, a shame on our country, and the ruin of rank and education. Drink wine if you will, but ought you make an unspeakable mess of everything by drinking wine in such a shameless manner? Are they to be judges of men in whom there is no fear of society, fear of royalty, and fear of God? Fie on the men of education and rank if even they should be unable to resist temptations!

BHARAT MIHIR,
May 28th, 1885.

36. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 28th May, dwells upon the distress among the inhabitants of Nulhati and adjacent localities. One thousand and eight hundred people are every week receiving help from Government. The Brahmo Samaj, the Indian Association, the Government, and certain local associations are daily granting relief to about 5,000 persons. But considering the increase of distress the relief given is not adequate. Government should speedily open relief works for the benefit of the 50 to 60 thousand inhabitants of this part of the country. It is exceedingly to be regretted that while the license tax is professedly wrung out from the poor people of this country for purposes of famine relief, they are suffering from distress caused by want of food. When the Maharajah of Durbhunga has expended some seven and a-half lakhs of rupees on irrigation works for the benefit of his tenants, cannot Government do anything to help the famine-afflicted in Beerbhoom and Bankoora?

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 29th, 1885.

37. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 29th May, says that people are of opinion that Sir Rivers Thompson has not done his duty in regard to the famine in Bankoora. He remained for seven days in Calcutta, but he did not go to the famine districts. His Honor considered attending the Dock Committee as of much greater importance than inspecting those places where people are dying for want of food. Does it look well in a ruler of millions? At the slightest possibility of famine in Behar, Sir George Campbell, Sir Richard Temple, and Lord Northbrook went to that province. The *Englishman* says that Sir Rivers Thompson is not indifferent in the matter of the famine. He sent for the Commissioner of Burdwan from whom he received a report of the distress. The Commissioner says that there is no famine, and because he is Commissioner, his statement should be accepted as true. But the question is, did the Commissioner ever institute a village to village enquiry in person? The Indian Association, the Shadharan Brahmo Samaj, and the Editor of the *Bangabāsī* are relieving

distress and publishing lists of death. Has the *Englishman* given a single reason to disbelieve them?

38. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 29th May, complains that the treatment by quack doctors is the cause of the death of a large number of men in the vil-

The quack doctors in villages.

lages. The writer asks Government either to make such arrangements that trained doctors may be induced to go to the villages, or to train up the quacks by holding examinations from time to time.

PRAJA BANDHU,
May 29th, 1885.

39. The same paper says that the passengers to cross the Hooghly at

The ferry ghât between Shyamnagar and Telinipara.

the ferry ghât between Shyamnagar and Telinipara are sometimes put to very great inconvenience. The fare of the ghât has risen from Rs. 300 to nearly Rs. 675 this year, and the rate of ferrying over from one pice to two pice. By the rules no passengers should be kept waiting for more than a quarter of an hour, but that rule is never obeyed. Many railway passengers have to pass their nights at the Shyamnagar station for want of ferry boats.

PRAJABANDHU.

40. The *Pratikár*, of the 29th May, says that people are dying for want of food, and the rulers are indifferent.

Famine in Bengal.

While the people are suffering the rulers are trying to pooh-pooh the idea of a famine. The Famine Insurance Fund has been appropriated for other purposes, and the rulers hesitate to spend even a small sum to relieve distress. The attitude of the English Government makes it possible that many will die for want of food.

PRATIKAR,
May 29th, 1885.

41. The same paper says that the prospects of the crop this year are not good. The rains have not yet set in, and people

Prospects of crops.

have not been able to cultivate their lands properly. Famine is going to be permanent in this country, and the rulers are not doing their best to prevent it. The writer does not think that much good will come of the endeavours of Government for the improvement of agriculture. Unless it gives advances to the cultivators, mere words will be of no use. Two things are necessary for preventing the recurrence of famines, viz., advances to agriculturists and irrigation.

PRATIKAR.

42. The same paper says that India is said to be poor now-a-days.

The Indian debt.

But was India always poor? If so, why did the Greeks, Arabs, Musalmans, the English,

the French and the Portuguese came to India under so much difficulty? Sirajuddowla ruined the country indeed, but there was no debt in his time. When treacherous Clive and worthless Mir Jaffer opened his treasury it contained an immense sum of money. India is now indebted to the tune of 157 crores. Was this immense debt contracted to feed the people suffering from the effects of the famine? It does not concern the Government whether the people get their food or not. The inhabitants of Beerbhoom, Bankoora and Moorshedabad are getting weaker and weaker for want of food. Is the Government doing anything to relieve them? When the sufferings became widely known, the Lieutenant-Governor made arrangements for giving them a handful of food. With these facts before the public, how can it be said that the public debt of India has been contracted for the people? Government never gives anything gratis, except the pensions, and still the debt is increasing. The English are warlike and they want war. The money is spent in war, and the burden is thrown upon the people. The people of India paid for the Egyptian war. The English sent an Indian contingent to the Soudan, and who will bear the cost? India has paid the costs of all the Afghan wars. The excessive taxation prevailing in this country is not enough to clear off the debt. A few more durbars for the reception of the Amir and the debt will never diminish. Before the Sepoy war the debt did not amount to Rs. 60,00,00,000, and within these 28 years it has amounted to Rs. 1,57,00,00,000.

PRATIKAR.

PRATIKAR,
May 29th, 1885.

43. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains of the severe scarcity of water at Kanakpur and Pratappur in Rampurhat. The little water that is to be had is unsuited for the purposes of drinking and bathing. People bring water in carts from Mallikpur.

PRATIKAR.

44. A correspondent writing to the same paper is glad to notice that Baboo Kalluram Sriman of Azimganj has opened an annachhatra in which for want of a cook raw rice is distributed to about 150 persons. The Brahma Samaj people distribute rice to about 100 men. Government should take note of these acts of humanity. The people complain to Government; but it is doubtful whether Government will take pity on them. The writer implores Government to grant some advance to the cultivators, otherwise famine will be come permanent in this country.

PRATIKAR.

45. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains that, except the people of Ghurni and Goari, the inhabitants of Kishnagore cannot make use of the pure water of the Jalangi. When malaria prevailed in Kishnagore the water of the Laldighi was guarded by the police, and that removed the scarcity of good drinkable water.

The same writer also notices that people are in great want in the villages near Hansadaha between Kishengunge and Kotchandpore.

ARYA DARPAN,
May 29th, 1885.

46. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 29th May, says that the English are sure to defend India, but natives should also be trained for the work. The people are petitioning the rulers for permission to learn the art of war, and the rulers should grant their petition. It does not look well that Government should withhold the permission for the enrolment of natives as volunteers when they are all so anxious for it.

ARYA DARPAN.

47. The same paper says that as example teaches better than precept, it would have been better to establish model farms for the instruction of the people in matters of agriculture. There are many native gentlemen in this country who have received a thorough agricultural training in Europe. Their services may be utilized in the management of these farms.

PATAKA,
May 29th, 1885.

48. The *Patáká*, of the 29th May, does not apprehend like some of its contemporaries that Lord Dufferin's intention to enrol natives as volunteers will, like Lord Ripon's intention to confer jurisdiction over Englishmen upon natives, come to nothing. The feelings of the Anglo-Indians under Lord Ripon were quite different from what they are now. Then they did not think the support of natives to be of any consequence. But from the apprehension of a Russian invasion and from the loyalty shown by Indians they have now understood that the maintenance of the Indian Empire depends upon the loyalty of Indians.

PATAKA.

49. The same paper says that the whole of India has been inspired with a heroic feeling at the brave offer of assistance by Jumna Bai. Who does not remember Durgavati? Who has forgotten the Rani of Jhansi who died fighting for her State the other day?

PATAKA.

50. The same paper says that distress is gradually increasing in Burdwan, Bankoora, Beerbhoom and Moorshedabad. Still the officials are indifferent to it. They do not believe that there is any distress. Mr. Beames took no notice of it. The case is almost the same with his successor. It

is a matter of regret that Government hesitates to spend for the relief of distress the proceeds of the license tax which was imposed with the express purpose of creating a fund for the relief of distress.

51. The same paper says that owing to the efforts of Mr. Justice Cunningham and Mr. Harrison, the suburbs are to be included into the Calcutta Municipality. But the suburbs will gain nothing, but will rather suffer loss by this, because only those who are rich will enjoy the comforts enjoyed by the rate-payers of the Calcutta Municipality. The suburbs should be left to improve their own condition. Self-reliance is real self-government. It has been clearly shewn by Baboo Surendro Nath Banerjea that reliance upon others is an obstacle in the way of progress.

PATAKA,
May 29th 1885.

52. The *Sanjivani*, of the 30th May, draws the attention of Mr. Lambert, the Deputy Commissioner of the Calcutta Police, to the fact that some people in gentlemen's dress sing obscene songs in the College Square at Pataldanga, where the students as a rule take their evening and morning walks.

SANJIVANI,
May 30th, 1885.

53. The same paper says that many villages in Bengal, inhabited by men of the gentlemen class, abound in dense jungle, where it is impossible to stir out at night without the danger of being carried off by tigers and bears. But the inhabitants are disarmed. The writer thinks that no agitation should be set on foot for obtaining the right of wearing arms at least in self-defence.

SANJIVANI.

54. The same paper is glad to notice that the accounts of the cruelties practised by Mr. Beadon in the Presidency Jail have at last reached the Howard Society in England, the members of which have written to the Viceroy and to the Lieutenant-Governor for a true account. The Lieutenant-Governor has shamelessly and in utter disregard of truth written in reply that most of the charges brought against Mr. Beadon were unfounded. He has told the Society that it has no cause of anxiety. Sir Rivers Thompson prompted by his worst passions has attempted to screen his countryman. But he should know that his hopes will be disappointed. The people of India have found out his true worth; the people of England also will soon be able to find it out.

SANJIVANI.

55. The same paper says that at Bagirhat a European employé of Baboo Durgacharan Laha gave 25 to 30 stripes to a Brahman employé with a cane. The Brahman is a man of good family, and he has sued the European for damages to the extent of Rs. 500. The writer is surprised to hear that the Laha Baboo who was lately a member of the Supreme Council has consented to bear the cost of the suit on behalf of the European offender.

SANJIVANI.

56. The same paper says that Mr. Hext and Mr. Brag of Golaghat have been acquitted of the charge of murder. The Judge did not pay any attention to the lamentations of the mother. But God hears her as He has witnessed the murder. Nobody will be able to elude the justice of the Almighty. The writer is very sorry that such failures of justice should take place in the British Empire. Russia will not be able to send the English away from India. But the groans of chaste women and the heart rending lamentations of mothers can expel them.

SANJIVANI,
May 30th, 1885.

57. The same paper says that the impunity with which Mr. Sharp escaped for his misdeeds at Bogra has emboldened him. He comes to his office at 5 or 6 P.M., and works till 8 or 9 P.M. His amla are to remain

SANJIVANI.

standing as long as he remains in office. Mr. Sharp has ordered the realisation of the arrears of the license tax with an additional 50 per cent. The writer does not know under what law Mr. Sharp can pass such an order. The people of Maldah celebrate what they call *gambhira* for two or three days during the months of Chaitra, Baishakh and Jyestha with the sound of drums, trumpets and other musical instruments. They applied to Mr. Sharp for permission to celebrate the festival in the English Bazar on the 15th and 16th of Baishakh. Mr. Sharp has prohibited the sounding of musical instruments. The 15th of May was fixed for holding a meeting of the Road Committee. Of the 16 members five were present and two were waiting outside. The time for meeting was fixed at 4 o'clock. At 5-30 Mr. Sharp sent them word that he would not come and that there would be no meeting.

SANJIVANI,
May 30th, 1885.

Famine in Beerbhoom.

58. The same paper says that more than 5,250 men received relief last week at Nalhati, Nawada and Ramporehat, and still the cry is for more. The number of those who have died for want of food would not prove to be inconsiderable on due enquiry. At Paikpara and Jagadhari, only a mile away from the place where the writer has taken up his quarters, five or seven persons have died of slight fever after starving for 10 or 15 days. The writer is prepared to prove the fact. It is a matter of great regret that the Government has not yet been able to realise the intensity of the distress, and still thinks that there is no famine in Beerbhoom but only scarcity.

GRAMVARTTA
PRAKASHIKA,
May 30th, 1885.

Famine in Kushtea.

59. A correspondent writing to the *Grāmavartā Prakāśhikā*, of the 30th May, says that Kalipara and several other villages in the sub-division of Kushtea are suffering from the effects of a severe scarcity of food. The people who up to this time were in the habit of advancing paddy have exhausted their stores. The char lands were sown with *jali dhan*, but for want of rains the seeds have been burnt up.

BANGABASI,
May 30th, 1885.

Mr. Enge.

60. The *Bangabāsi*, of the 30th May, says that Mr. Enge shot down a man dead, admitted it himself, but has been punished with imprisonment for five years. The European community has got incensed over the matter. The barristers of the High Court are trying to prefer an appeal at the cost of the Defence Association. Will the Europeans venture to take up this case after the scandal of the Walker case? But they are shameless.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 31st, 1885.

European offenders.

61. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 31st May, says that the leniency shown to the European offenders, like Mr. Enge and the murderers of a Mahomedan boy in Assam, proves that impartiality and justice have fled away from the courts of this country. It is illegal to admit any one accused of murder to bail, but Mr. Enge was enlarged on a personal recognizance of Rs. 1,000. Native gentlemen do not get seats in courts when they are called upon to give their evidence. But the two European offenders of Assam obtained seats near the Judge. The country in which race distinction is carried to such an extent, where law and regulations are treated with such disrespect, is certainly beyond the pale of law. Can people have any respect for the courts of such a country? Under the rule of the civilized English, partiality is daily vitiating justice, and still the Government is indifferent. Nothing can be more painful than this. How long will Government remain indifferent when its former fame is being tarnished by the fault of a few judicial officers?

DACCA PRAKASH.

62. The same paper approves of the resolution prohibiting Government officers from receiving addresses, but it says that the resolution should not become a giving addresses.

dead letter.

63. The *Sádhárant*, of the 31st May, says that great benefit will probably be derived if the whole of India can inform the English

The distribution of a statement of the grievances of India in England.

public of their grievances at the time of the general election. If a short but full statement of the grievances of India is drawn up and copies of it are distributed broadcast over England, the English electors may read it and great benefit may thus be derived. The native associations and the editors of newspapers should combine to prepare such a statement. The statement should show the rigour of the English Criminal Code, the undue expenditure in the Civil and Military Departments, the necessity for the observance of economy, the ravages committed by malaria, the means of preventing famines, the oppressive and partial administration of justice by officials in the mofussil, the waste of vast sums upon the exodus of the Governors to the hills, the ruin caused by the outstill system, the indifference of the officials to the introduction of the system of self-government, and the necessity for the Civil Service Examination being held in India. The statement should also speak of the Arms Act, the salt duties, and the Rent Act. A few persons should be sent out at the expense of the national fund to agitate upon these subjects in England.

SADHARANI,
May 31st, 1885.

64. The same paper says that the serving of summonses by court peons is very costly. It cost the writer eight

The serving of summonses by post.

rupees and a half to get a summons from the court of the Munsif of Ghosgawn in Mymensing served on a person in Isvarganj in the same district. People may be saved from the present cost and inconvenience if the system of serving of summonses by post in registered covers is introduced. The signature of the receiver will be a proof of the obtaining of the summons. The postal peons know everybody in their beat, consequently there will be no difficulty in the distribution of the summonses.

SADHARANI.

65. The same paper says that the draining away of the resources of the people was greater under the Queen than under the Company and is greater under the Empress than it was when

Wringing out money from Indians and the Queen's promise to govern India for the benefit of Indians.

she was simply Queen. As on the one side the administration of India has become more moral, the squeezing of the people has increased. Many Englishmen do not understand how injured India is becoming owing to this extortion, and how injured England may be owing to this injury to India. If a few good Englishmen had understood the extent of the injury, a limit would have been set to the extortion. The English do not yet understand that if the present state of things continues not only India but also England will be ruined. The Queen said in her noble proclamation that India would be governed for the good of Indians, and that she would feel herself strong if the condition of Indians improved. Though effect has not yet been given to the principle thus declared, a new era has been inaugurated in the administration of India since the making of that promise.

SADHARANI.

66. The same paper says that native editors were exceedingly glad when Government ruled that they would be furnished with official information. But the

Native editors and official information.

only information with which native editors were furnished was about the imposition of quarantine. The editor has recently received as an official communication a list of the names of those who attended the levee at Simla on the Queen's Birthday. He could not determine what use to make of it. The editor entreats Government to make good its promise about furnishing native editors with vernacular translations Acts and Bills.

SADHARANI.

SADHAANRI,
May 31st, 1895.

67. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the prevalence of thefts in Santipore. Unless the police is on the alert poor people will be ruined.

Thefts in Santipore.

SAMAYA,
June 1st, 1895.

68. A correspondent writing to the *Samaya*, of the 1st June, says that the heat is intense at Bolepur, and there has been no rainfall yet. Scarcity of water will

Complaints of Bolepur.

be greatly felt if it does not rain soon in these parts. There is no doubt about the famine. The heart-rending cries of the distressed are being heard in every quarter. A few friends of the writer are helping the famine-stricken to the best of their power. But the number of those who ask for relief is becoming larger and larger every day. Government is doing nothing. The writer hears that the indifference of Government is owing to the fact that the police did not submit a correct report. He hopes that the police will now submit another report. Government is giving relief in the thana of Ilam Bazar. The writer hears of distress from every quarter. People will soon die unless Government takes steps to speedily relieve them.

SAMAYA.

69. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that not only the poorer classes, but even the higher classes, are suffering from the growing scarcity of food.

Famine in Ilampurhat.

For in these parts all classes of men depend upon agriculture. The writer saw one day 2,500 men receiving doles of rice from the Sadbhab Uddipani Sabha. But the resources of the Sabha seem to be exhausted. Those that obtain relief from it will soon be in great distress.

SAMAYA

70. The same paper says that the Government declared in 1873 that as the carrying on of zemindari business and trade by a Government officer within his own jurisdiction was likely to be accompanied by much oppression, no one should be able to carry on these things without the permission of Government. But the meaning of this order was differently understood, and Government has been at last obliged to issue a resolution this month to clear its meaning. The rules framed by Government are good, and the object with which they have been framed is noble. If Government keep a sharp eye on this matter, it is likely to be eminently successful.

Zemindari and trade of Government officers.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
June 1st, 1895.

71. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 1st June, says that, though the distress in Burdwan, Beerbhoom and Bankoora is gradually increasing, the officials are indifferent

Distress in the province.

to the matter. But still there is time. Have not the officials the power to understand that the consequences will be disastrous if steps are not taken in time to relieve the distress? The officials say that the accounts of the distress given in the newspapers are overcoloured. That friend of Bengal, the *Englishman*, has undertaken to sing to the opposite tune. But is the *Englishman* acting like an Englishman in concealing the distress as the advocate of officials? Would the *Englishman* have supported the officials if even a single Anglo-Indian had suffered from distress? The distress has not yet extended far. If steps are now taken to put an end to the distress they will be easily successful. Distress is now raging mainly in Burdwan, Bankoora, Beerbhoom and Moorshedabad. The total annual income of Government from these four districts is certainly over one crore of rupees. It is monstrous that the people of districts from which such a large income is derived should be suffered to die of starvation. Supposing these districts to have a population of 4,500,000, and supposing one-fourth of this whole number to be famine-afflicted, it is found that at least 11,00,000 persons are suffering from distress. The distress of so many persons can be called nothing but famine. If Government does not afford

relief to the people in spite of its large income, it will lay itself open to blame. The officials have been always indifferent to distress and guilty of procrastination. Very bad results have been produced by such conduct.

72. The same paper says that the number of suits is gradually increasing in the mofussil Small Cause Courts.

Additional Judges in the mofussil courts. A single Judge is no longer capable of clearing the files. The Judges of the Sealdah and Calcutta Small Cause Courts are relieved by the services of a Registrar, who disposes of all suits for sums under 20 rupees. The appointment of a Registrar in the Small Cause Courts of Hooghly, Jessore, Magurah, Howrah, Nuddea and Bhagulpore is proposed. If this is done, the Judges will be greatly relieved. The income from the Small Cause Courts is not small. The appointment of an additional Judge, where one Judge is not capable of clearing the files, will be even better than the appointment of a Registrar.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
June 1st, 1885.

73. The same paper, referring to Lord Dufferin's expression of satisfaction with the letter recently written by the Secretary to the Nizam, in which he has maintained that Indians at large, and especially the Indian Mussulmans, are loyal to the English Government, says that it found out long ago that Lord Dufferin can truly appreciate merit.

Lord Dufferin.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

74. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 1st June, complains of the scarcity of water, want of good roads and prevalence of thefts in Inatpore in thana Bankipore in Diamond Harbour.

Complaints of Inatpore.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 1st, 1885.

75. The same paper recommends that now that there have been successive years of drought in the province, the newly-established Agricultural Department should make arrangements for helping the peasantry to irrigate their fields.

Arrangements for irrigation.

SOM PRAKASH.

76. The same paper says that the pressure of work in the Calcutta Small Cause Court is so overwhelming that Government should increase the number of Judges.

The Calcutta Small Cause Court.

SOM PRAKASH.

77. The same paper says that it does not appear that the land revenue will be fully realized this year. It is certain that it will not be fully realized at least in Bengal, many parts of which are suffering from distress which is due to drought. Owing to probability of war trade and commerce have been injured, and they will be more injured if the apprehensions of war are not removed for some time longer. Though Government's income will thus fall off this year owing to many reasons, Government has wasted large sums of money. Still preparations are being made for war. The Quetta Railway and a road through the Pishin Valley will have to be constructed. Money will have to be spent also on many other things. It would have been impossible for Government to meet all these expenses even if the state of the finances had been most satisfactory. How will then Government meet these expenses now that it is almost bankrupt? Government may meet these expenses by two means only, namely, opening of loans or reduction of expenditure in other directions. Government will have to adopt both these courses. India may obtain loans at smaller interest if England borrows the money in her own name and give it to India. Owing to apprehensions of war the Supreme Government has asked the local Governments to reduce expenditure. The editor hopes that effect will not be given to the instructions of the Supreme Government by the dismissal of native clerks alone. Savings may be effected by the stopping of public works. But the stopping of public works in the famine-afflicted places of Bengal will be disastrous in its consequences. The

The reduction of expenditure.

SOM PRAKASH.

abandonment of the Nagpore Railway scheme has caused great sufferings in Beerbhoom.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 1st, 1885.

78. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 1st June, says that a circular has been issued by the Government of India directing reduction of expenditure, stopping

of public works, and withdrawal of money even from the local funds with which Government has legally no concern. The people have very little to do with the provincial funds. Government might have effected considerable savings by retrenchments under this head, by substituting cheap and competent native agency for costly European labour. It might have by this means increased also the loyalty and prosperity of the people which in the event of a war with Russia would have enabled them to bear additional taxation and take up arms against the enemy. Government understands this perfectly well, but it cannot accept the suggestion for fear of Anglo-Indians and owing to its distrust of natives. It might have also resorted to another means for increasing its income, namely, encouraging native commerce and industries by levying an increased import duty upon foreign goods, and by imposing additional taxation upon the people who could, if native industries were encouraged, bear it easily. Government, however, can not do this for fear of offending the English merchants and it therefore resorts to the plea of free trade to satisfy the people of India. If public works are stopped both Government and the people will be injured. The same result will take place if the number of the amlah is reduced. The Conservatives have become an object of distrust with the people of India by spending the proceeds of the license tax on the Afghan war, and the Liberals will only injure themselves if they allow the local funds to be appropriated for the purpose of a war with Russia.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

79. The same paper says that the prices of food-grains have risen so greatly, and there has been so scanty rainfall this year, that people are filled with grave

apprehensions. The authorities should not now sit still. They seem to believe that the accounts of the distress contained in the newspapers are not true. The fact is, whether there shall or shall not be a famine in the land depends on the pleasure of Government. A few years ago the authorities created a famine in Behar to serve some purpose of their own. Perhaps it is to serve some such purpose again that the rulers are this time saying that there is no famine in Bengal. Perhaps they are doing this for lack of funds. But it behoves them to consider that they will be losers and incur lasting reproach if the people die of starvation. At the present moment the distress does not prevail all over Bengal, but signs all round are so unfavourable that it is feared that in many parts of Bengal there will be this year as dreadful a famine as that which visited Madras and Bombay a few years ago.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

80. The same paper blames Mr. Justice Norris for releasing a European female who was lawfully detained in the civil jail for her debts. This action has surprised many people. Mr. Justice Norris's decisions have always given rise to adverse remarks. A Judge in whose judicial ability people have so little confidence should either be dismissed from the Government service or relieved of his work as a judicial officer.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

81. The same paper says that when the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman* are referring to the possibility of natives gaining admission into the volunteer corps, there may be some truth in the matter. But Lord Dufferin may get himself into difficulty in this connection just as Lord Ripon did in the matter of the Jurisdiction Bill. It is not known whether the Anglo-Indians will make any opposition in this matter. There was indeed some objection in Madras,

The volunteering movement.

and the Madras Government has rejected the prayer of the intending native volunteers. But the Government of Bengal has not as yet sent any reply to the numerous representations which have been made to it on the subject of Native volunteering. It may be that so long as the Russian difficulty lasts, there will not be much opposition made by Anglo-Indians. In the face of an impending war with Russia when it is necessary to increase the military strength of the British Indian Empire and the loyalty of the people of India, it is probable that even the *Times* will not make any very great opposition to the proposal to permit natives to enter the volunteer corps.

82. The same paper observes in reference to the circular issued by Sir Rivers Thompson enquiring of all heads of departments under the Bengal administration

Reduction of expenditure.

about the extent to which reduction of expenditure could be made in their offices that if Sir Rivers is really in earnest in the matter, His Honor should show the way by first cutting down his own large salary.

83. The *Sámachár Chandriká*, of the 1st June, says that great distress exists in many places in Bengal. Famine

Famine in Bengal.

has made its appearance in Burdwan, Beerbhoom and Bankoora. People are dying of want of food. But the country has not yet been depopulated, and that is why officials do not stir themselves. Officials generally come to their senses when everything is over. Famine has appeared only on a small scale, but still the results will be serious. The officials have not yet shaken off their lethargy. They are still trying to conceal the fact of the famine.

84. The *Prabhátí*, of the 1st May, attributes the delay in the disposal of suits in the Calcutta Small Cause

The Calcutta Small Cause Court.

Court to the large number of suits that is filed in it. Out of 31,074 suits filed, 30,211 have been disposed of, leaving 863 suits undecided. The Judges wish to dispose of all cases as they come on day after day, and for that reason they have asked for an additional Judge. The writer thinks that the appointment of an additional Judge has become absolutely necessary.

85. The *Samvád Prabhakar*, of the 2nd June, says that the natives were admitted into the highest offices of the State,

Admission of natives into the army.

both civil and military, during the Mahomedan period. The Mahomedans were very liberal in this respect, and it is a matter of great regret that the English do not show even a hundredth part of the liberal spirit of the Mahomedans. The writer thinks that the admission of natives of birth and education will improve the condition of the army and strengthen the position of England in India.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
June 2nd, 1885.

86. The *Surabhi*, of the 2nd June, says that Ceylon bids fair to be ahead of India in many respects. It has

Indians and the expenses of the Anglican Church.

been settled that the people of Ceylon will not have to defray any longer the expenses of the Anglican Church. When will Indians be exempted from the payment of those expenses which they are now unjustly made to bear?

SURABHI,
June 2nd, 1885.

87. The same paper says that instructions for the reduction of expenditure have been given to the Burmah Government also. Sir Rivers Thompson also

Sir Rivers Thompson and reduction of expenditure.

is trying to devise means for the reduction of expenditure. He has called upon the heads of offices to state to what extent the salaries may be reduced. Asking the officers themselves such a question is a strange thing. Will the officers consent to the reduction of their own salaries?

SURABHI.

ANANDA BAZAR,
PATRIKA,
June 1st, 1885.

SAMACHAR CHAN-
DRIKA,
June 1st, 1885.

PRABHATI,
June 1st 1885.

SURABHI,
June 2nd, 1885.

88. The same paper says that the highest officer in the Military Department is prepared to appoint natives to the highest offices in the army. The Viceroy himself is in favour of the enrolment of natives as volunteers. Russia again is peeping at the gate of India. If it be possible that narrow-hearted Englishmen will ever confer upon natives any military privilege now is the time when they may be induced to do so. Natives should remember that if they let slip this opportunity they will be backward by half a century. Every native should now join in a vigorous agitation upon the subject.

Agitation for military privileges.

SURABHI.

89. The same paper says that the English Government would be mistaken if it concludes from the loyalty now shown by Indians that Indians are greatly satisfied with its rule. This loyalty does not mean the appreciation of British rule judged by an absolute standard, but only in comparison with Russian rule. Natives have not yet lost their faith in the English Government. They trust that they will obtain the privileges which the English Government has promised to confer upon them. After seeing this loyalty of India the English Government should not become blind to the defects of its administration. If the English Government continues to be guilty of oppression and injustice, it will not in future find such loyalty in Indians. The English Government has now seen that its dominion in India is founded upon the affections of Indians. A just treatment of natives and assisting them in improving their condition in every respect are the only means of making the loyalty of Indians permanent.

90. The *Dainik*, of the 3rd June says that famine has made its appearance in many places in Assam. About 4,000 men in the sub-division of Lukhmipur are in want. Lieutenant Kennedy, the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the sub-division, is distributing rice to the poor and giving tuccavi advances to those who will be able to repay it at the time of the harvest. A correspondent of the *Englishman* is afraid lest Government stops these relief works.

Famine in Assam.

DAINIK,
June 3rd, 1885.

DAINIK.

91. The same paper says that its articles on the subject of the selection of school-books have not been without effect. The writer has come to know from a confidential source that Mr. Tawney has called for the papers of the Text Book Committee. The writer takes this opportunity to say a few words about text-books. Self-culture is the ultimate aim of education, and in selecting text-books that object should be always kept in view. The Education Commission has made certain suggestions in the matter of text books, and the books prepared agreeably to those suggestions should be selected. At the present moment vernacular text-books are prepared by an inferior class of men. They belong as a rule to the class of Sub-Inspectors of schools and book-sellers. If Mr. Tawney asks for the lists of books current in each circle he will be able to find out these authors. The writer hopes that Mr. Tawney will look patiently into this matter.

Bengali School-books.

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
June 3rd, 1885.

92. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 3rd June, says that evils often befall a kingdom for the faults of its ruler. The partiality shown by the rulers of India to their countrymen is doing a great mischief. From the day the English learnt to look down upon the natives, and Englishmen began to kill and insult natives with impunity, evils have begun to flow. The ruler of Bengal has so far forgotten his duties that he does not see men dying before him for want of food. Had he seen this, he could never have said that there is no famine.

The famine in Bengal.

93. The *Dainik*, of the 4th June, publishes a letter signed by three native gentlemen, in which the writers complain that, though the district authorities pass

DAINIK,
June 4th, 1885.

Famine in Beerbhoom.

and repass through Synthia, they never notice the sufferings of the people from the effects of the scarcity. There are about 800 or 900 families in the village, of which 500 or 600 belong to the lower classes, who get only one meal every day, or every alternate day. Fourteen or fifteen families have left the village; 60 or 70 families of agriculturists are in great want. The inhabitants of all classes in the villages of Nainapur, Nautari, Kutubpur, Banágran, Chhaotara, Pariharpur, Malbor and others are in great want.

94. A correspondent who has inspected the famine-stricken districts, writing to the *Prabháti* of the 5th June, says that he has never in life witnessed so much

PRABHATI,
June 5th, 1885.

Famine in Bengal.

human misery and so much human suffering as are to be found at Hariram-pore and other places in the Nalhati Thana, and in certain villages in the Sonamukhi Thana. People have become skeletons for want of food. The condition of certain villages near the Panutia post office in Beerbhoom and of Saugram, inhabited by Mahomedans, is extremely wretched. Many females have been abandoned by their husbands. It is only the dumb, the blind, and the lame who receive Government relief. What is the Government doing to save the agriculturists? If they do not get help, they will not be able to carry on the work of cultivation next year.

95. The *Samvád Purnachandrodaya*, of the 5th June, hears that the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality are thinking of doubling the license tax leviable

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
June 5th, 1885.

The Municipal License tax.

on trade. The tax already existing falls heavily on the traders; a double increase would be an unbearable burden.

96. The *Samvád Báhiká*, of the 14th May, regrets that the Road Cess Department in the Balasore district is proved to be rotten to the core, for its income has been a prey to certain number of scoundrels who have tried to defalcate public money as much as they could. It hopes that the authorities will take particular care to find out the exact amount defalcated by Banamali Das, who served in the capacity of mohurir in that department.

SAMVAD BAHKA,
May 14th, 1885.

The Balasore Road Cess office.

97. Its contemporary of the *Utkal Darpan* speaks in the same strain, and expresses a hope that the examination of road cess accounts in the Balasore Collectorate by Baboo Sudam Charan Naik, specially deputed for the purpose, will lead to the discovery of many mysteries not hitherto known to the public.

UTKAL DARPAN,
May 19th, 1885.

The Balasore Road Cess office.

98. The *Utkal Dípiká*, of the 16th May, reviews in detail the results of the M. E. and M. V. Scholarship examinations held in Orissa in the current year, and expresses great satisfaction at the general advancement of vernacular education in that province. It rejoices to learn that two Hindu girls have not only passed the Vernacular Scholarship examination, but have respectively occupied the first and second places in the general list.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
May 16th, 1885.

Recent vernacular examinations
in Orissa.

99. Referring to the Resolution of the Bengal Government on the establishment of an Agricultural Department in Bengal, the *Utkal Darpan*, after pointing out the benefits which the department in question may confer on the people of Bengal in general, goes on to point out certain defects in the following terms:—

UTKAL DARPAN,
May 19th, 1885.

The Bengal Agricultural Department.

“Exhaustive as the Government Resolution is, it has still its drawbacks. No light, for instance, is thrown upon the estimated cost of the department. Nor is anything said about the irrigation works to be under-

taken in furtherance of the object which Government has in view. We might also point out other omissions which perhaps cannot be immediately supplied. An esteemed contemporary is afraid that the department will do no practical good, while it is likely to be a cause of harassing taxation. The Bengal ryot is certainly not likely to take kindly to a novel system of cultivation all at once, and the introduction of cadastral surveys and the revival of the patwari agency will doubtless necessitate the imposition of fresh taxes. But we are free to confess that it is not the new department, but the iniquitous Tenancy Act, which must be held responsible for the apprehended evils. If, however, the department is carefully worked and efficiently supervised, some of these evils are likely to be minimised and mitigated. Agricultural researches and agricultural improvements have done immense good elsewhere, and we think we ought to give them a fair trial here."

SEBAKA,
May 20th, 1886.

The volunteering movement.

100. Referring to the volunteer movement at Cuttack, the *Sebaka* makes the following observations:—

We have already informed our readers that a considerable number of native, European and Eurasian gentlemen expressed their willingness to enlist themselves as volunteers. We are glad to announce that the proposal has been recommended to Government by Mr. Metcalfe in terms favourable both to the natives and the Europeans of the station. In Mr. Metcalfe's opinion those Europeans and Eurasians only should be enlisted who possessed good moral character, whereas the nomination of natives, amongst whom there are some native Christians, should be made dependent on the approval of the Commissioner of the Orissa Division. We hope Government will act upon the suggestions of Mr. Metcalfe and sanction the formation of a volunteer corps at Cuttack. Not a small amount of credit is due to those leading members of the native and European communities of the station, who, by cultivation of friendly feelings towards one another, have made such an important contingency probable. This is the more commendable, as the unwillingness of Europeans and Eurasians of other stations to serve side by side with the natives has made it impossible for the latter to join the volunteer corps of those stations. As we have pointed out long since the volunteer regulations are not in favour of the admission of the natives. We therefore hope that the Government of India will feel the necessity of revising those regulations in view of the furtherance of the interests of the natives of that country. At the same time we request Government not to make much distinction between natives and native Christians, both of whom we consider to be loyal in an equal degree. Our readers, we hope, will not consider us irrelevant, if we conclude by reproducing here the speech of Mr. Garstin, member of the Madras Board of Revenue, at the anniversary meeting of the Pachiappah's College in that Presidency. It runs thus:—I put forward for the consideration of all those well-conducted young men, who find it difficult to adopt a profession, the suggestion that they should apply to Government for commissions as native officers in the army, and I have every reason to believe that, as far as circumstances will permit, such applications would be favourably entertained. In this way, the army might be supplied by degrees with a younger, better educated class of native officers than it at present possesses.

SEBAKA.

101. The same paper points out the necessity of taking measures to supply the Pooree town with good water in the following terms:—

"We are glad that the attention of Government has been drawn in time to one of the important and secret causes of cholera in the Pooree town, namely, want of good drinking water. Those that have had

the misfortune of putting up in the Pooree town even for a few days must bear testimony to the filthy character of the water in tanks and wells generally used by the townsmen. * * * * *

* * * * * We are told that our Commissioner, in consultation with our Superintending Engineer, is considering a scheme for a water-supply for the town of Pooree. An appeal will shortly be made to the native princes of India, almost all of whom are interested in the cause of Jaganath, for funds to carry out the project. The Benares-Pooree Railway, if ever constructed and completed, will render the supply of good water in the Pooree town more than necessary. We wish the scheme every success."

102. The same paper expresses great regret at the death of

Dr. K. M. Banerjea.

Dr. K. M. Banerjea, an interesting sketch of whose life occurs in its columns. All

the papers in Orissa bear testimony to the loss which the native community has sustained at the demise of the learned doctor, who was known to be a connecting link between the present and past generations of Bengalees.

SEBAKA,
May 30th, 1885.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 6th June 1885.

